



Dear friends of the Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle,

Our bi-monthly newsletter, "From Japan to the Northwest," is intended to share important and interesting information related to Japan, our region, and the Consulate's activities. You can find current and past issues of the newsletter [here](#).

1. [Response to the Situation in Ukraine](#) (Updated regularly)

[Measures by the Japanese Government \(PDF\)](#)

[Joint media release on the occasion of the APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade meeting](#)

On May 21 and 22, 2022, Mr. Hagiuda Koichi, Minister for Economy, Trade and Industry, and Mr. Miyake Shingo, Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, participated in the APEC Ministers Responsible for Trade meeting in Thailand.

After the meeting, Japan, Australia, Canada, Chile, the Republic of Korea, New Zealand, and the United States issued the joint media release condemning Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

[Joint Media Release \(PDF\)](#)

[Japan-France Summit Telephone Talk](#)

On June 1, PM Kishida held a summit telephone talk with President Emmanuel Macron of France.

The two leaders confirmed, in response to Russia's aggression against Ukraine, the importance of close collaboration of G7 on sanctions against Russia and support for Ukraine. They also shared the understanding that they would cooperate to support vulnerable countries facing the challenges in food security and energy.

2. [Upcoming Event - UN Symposium on the Abductions Issue - June 16, 2022](#)

The governments of Japan, Australia, the U.S., and the European Union will co-host an online symposium on the abductions issue on June 16, from 8:00am to 9:45am EST.

This event will feature the voices of families of the victims from Japan and other countries, as well as former ambassadors of European countries to North Korea to discuss the current situation in North Korea and the ways to resolve the abductions issue.

The live broadcast can be viewed on [UN Web TV](#) (in English) and the [official YouTube Channel of the Headquarters for the Abduction Issue](#), the Government of Japan (in Japanese).

[View the event flyer here.](#) (PDF)

3. Japan-Singapore & Japan-Malaysia Foreign Ministers' Meeting

[Japan-Singapore Foreign Ministers' Meeting](#)

On May 25, FM Hayashi held a Japan-Singapore Foreign Ministers' Meeting with Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Singapore.

Minister Hayashi welcomed Minister Balakrishnan's visit to Japan, stating that Japan intended to strengthen cooperation with Singapore towards a "Free and Open Indo-Pacific." In response, Minister Balakrishnan expressed his intention to further enhance cooperation on bilateral relations as well as regional and global challenges.

Both Ministers concurred on further promotion of bilateral cooperation including in the digital area. Both ministers condemned Russia's aggression against Ukraine and confirmed that they would continue to coordinate with each other on that front. They also confirmed that they would collaborate on tackling regional and international challenges including the situations of the East and South China Seas as well as Myanmar.

[Japan-Malaysia Foreign Ministers' Meeting](#)

On May 25, FM Hayashi held a Japan-Malaysia Foreign Ministers' Meeting with H.E. Dato' Sri Saifuddin bin Abdullah, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malaysia.

Minister Hayashi noted that this year marks the 65th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations and expressed his intention to enhance cooperation toward achieving a Free and Open Indo-Pacific (FOIP). In response, Minister Saifuddin stated that he placed great importance on the relationship with Japan and expressed his intention to further promote bilateral relations while taking the opportunity of this milestone year.

Both ministers concurred to work together towards a new development of the Look East Policy, taking into consideration the demands of the times and Malaysia's priority policies including the area of digital economy. Regarding the situation in Ukraine, Minister Hayashi stated that Russia's aggression against Ukraine represented a grave challenge to the rule of law and that violations of sovereignty and territorial integrity must not be tolerated. The two ministers concurred that the two countries would coordinate to deal with the impacts on the world economy, alongside condemning the aggression.

4. [Speech by PM Kishida at the 27th International Conference on The Future of Asia](#)



(Photo: Cabinet Public Affairs Office).

The Future of Asia is an international gathering where political, economic, and academic leaders from the Asia-Pacific region offer their opinions frankly and freely on regional issues and the role of Asia in the world. Held by Nikkei every year since 1995, it is considered to be one of the most important global conferences in Asia.

PM Kishida delivered a speech at the conference.

"The world is now witnessing unbelievable aggression by an authoritarian state that is trampling on international law and humanity. We are shocked at the sudden collapse of the peace and order upon which all activities are premised.

As we stand eye to eye with this new reality, what kind of future for Asia should we envision in response to the shaking of the international order? At a time when the world as a whole is at a historical crossroads, leaders of countries and sectors of society must, more than ever before, engage in candid discussions and take action."

[Read the full speech here.](#)

5. [Video message by FM Hayashi at USJETAA JET35 Alumni Reunion](#)

In commemoration of the 35th anniversary of the JET Program, the USJETAA, which organizes JETAA (alumni associations of former JET Program participants) chapters throughout the U.S., provided an opportunity for former JET participants from the U.S. to meet each other.

FM Hayashi delivered a video message at the event.

[Watch the video message here](#), or [read his remarks here](#).

6. Updates on the COVID-19 Situation and Travel to Japan

[- Daily COVID Data Updates](#)

Traveling from the U.S. to Japan:

All foreigners, including U.S. citizens, are currently required to get a visa to enter Japan.

For information on the requirements and procedures for getting a visa to visit Japan, please check our website below.

https://www.seattle.us.emb-japan.go.jp/ttpr_en/visa.html

Recent Updates (NEW)

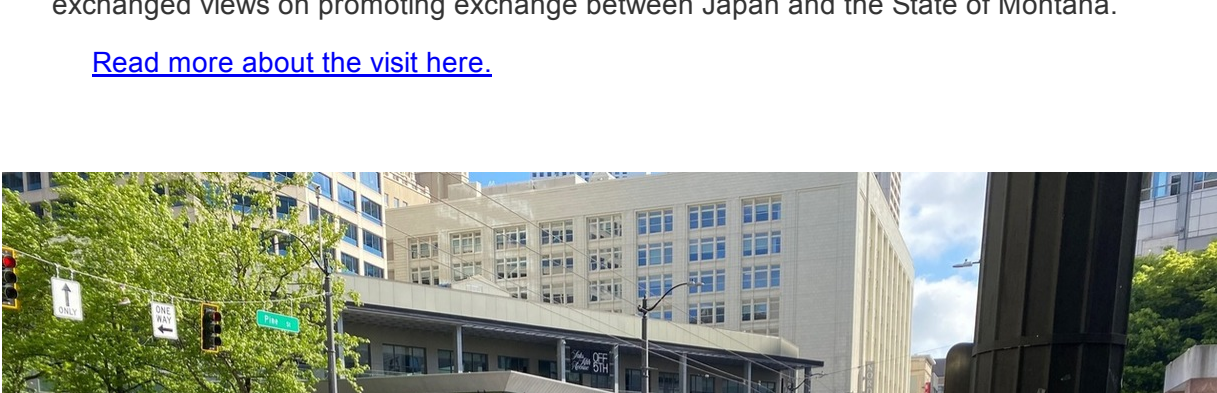
[Reviewed requirements of on-arrival COVID-19 testing and quarantine period after entry to Japan \(New Border Measures \(28\)\)](#)

Based on the New Border Measures (28) released on May 20, 2022, the measures for cross-border travelers from designated countries/regions have changed from June 1, 2022.

These new requirements pertain to on-arrival COVID-19 tests and home quarantine after entry into Japan, as well as use of public transportation after entry to Japan.

[Read more about the updated requirements here.](#)

7. Consulate News & Activities

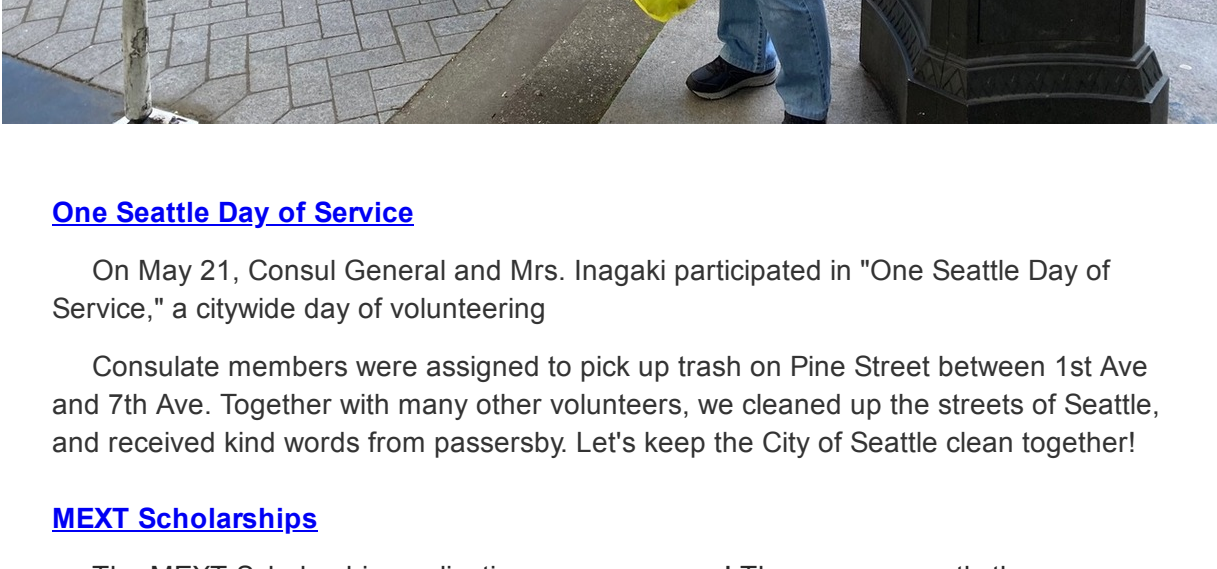


[CG Inagaki's Visit to Montana](#)

Consul General and Mrs. Inagaki visited Montana for the first time since their arrival in Seattle. They immensely enjoyed this visit and truly appreciated the Montanan hospitality that was kindly extended to them.

Consul General Inagaki paid a courtesy call on Montana Governor Greg Gianforte and exchanged views on economic relations, people-to-people exchanges, and sister city relations between Japan and the State of Montana. They also met officials from the Montana Department of Agriculture and the Montana Department of Commerce and exchanged views on promoting exchange between Japan and the State of Montana.

[Read more about the visit here.](#)



[One Seattle Day of Service](#)

On May 21, Consul General and Mrs. Inagaki participated in "One Seattle Day of Service," a citywide day of volunteering

Consulate members were assigned to pick up trash on Pine Street between 1st Ave and 7th Ave. Together with many other volunteers, we cleaned up the streets of Seattle, and received kind words from passersby. Let's keep the City of Seattle clean together!

[MEXT Scholarships](#)

The MEXT Scholarship applications are now open! There are currently three available categories: Research, Undergraduate, and Specialized Training College. Applications must be mailed to the consulate and received by June 5. Learn more [here](#).

That's it for this issue of "From Japan to the Northwest."

Until next time, thank you for reading!

Sincerely,

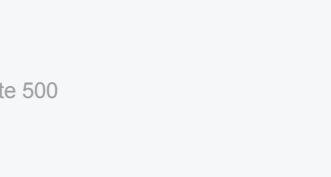
Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle

View past issues of "From Japan to the Northwest" here: https://www.seattle.us.emb-japan.go.jp/ttpr_en/08182021_e-newletter.html

Visit the Consulate's Homepage here:

- [Homepage](#) (English・英語)
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